

**SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 16, 2019**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, S. Marr, S. McDonald
Absent: G. Pohorely

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the “Open Public Meetings Act” read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Tuesday, April 16, 2019. A Motion was made by S. Marr and seconded by S. McDonald that the minutes be approved for the meeting of March 11, 2019.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Tree City USA Recognition from the Arbor Day Foundation – This notice will be sent to the Washington Messenger for their next publication.
2. Tree City USA Bulletin: March/April 2019 “A Tree for Every Space” – this pamphlet will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. CSIP Grant - The State Forester, Brian McDonald needs clarification regarding the number of trees listed for the grant. G. Pohorely will contact Sunshine Tree & Landscape to provide 4 additional trees without any additional cost. The \$16,198.00 grant funds were previously disbursed to the vendor in (2) separate payments. The number of trees purchased and planted was changed during the planning process and currently does not match the grant report. Further updates will be discussed at the May Shade Tree meeting.
2. Green Communities Grant - The grant packet will be sent to the Borough with the terms of the agreement. K. Halpin recommended that each Commissioner take inventory of their assigned areas in town and note any potential planting projects for the future. Any time spent on this effort should be recorded as in-kind hours. The Shade Tree was awarded \$3,000.00 with 100% matching in-kind services.
3. 36 North Pickel Ave. – Homeowner (Vickie Rhoads) hired a tree service to remove (2) trees in the right-of-way without notifying the Shade Tree Commission. Ms. Rhoads was instructed to replace the trees with comparable 2 ½” to 3” caliber street trees at her own

expense. A booklet of street trees was sent to her residence as a guide for her selection. Consequently, a written request was submitted by Sunshine Tree & Landscape to reconsider a more affordable size (1 ½” caliber) for the replacement trees. Ms. Rhoads is aware of the error but the tree company was negligent by not checking into the town’s right-of-way area. A letter will be sent to the tree company informing them about this issue and to ensure any future maintenance work that is within close proximity to the street be verified through the Shade Tree Commission. K. Halpin will contact Ms. Rhoads regarding the smaller size and more affordable tree replacements. This topic will be further discussed at the May Shade Tree meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Right Tree, Planted in the Right Place, the Right Way Seminar – K. Halpin, S. Marr and DPW Supervisor, Jonathan James attended the free seminar on April 12, 2019 in Hackensack. There were (3) C.E.U.’s earned for each attendee. The (9) C.E.U.’s meets the annual requirement to be in compliance under the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act.
2. Nelson Tree Service – JCP&L needs to move a utility pole that crosses Carlton Ave. In order to redirect the wires, 4 trees located at 56, 60 & 62 Carlton Avenue will be removed since they are in direct alignment with the new poles. Although the addresses listed are not on the town tree inventory, 60 Carlton Avenue is located between the sidewalk and curb. This will be noted on the inventory list for future reference. Nelson Tree Service will contact the homeowners and remove the trees at JCP&L’s expense.
3. 192 West Washington Avenue – Owner (Sean Butler) requested notification if a new tree will be planted on the side of his corner property when the Grand Avenue streetscape project is complete. If possible, Mr. Butler would prefer not to have a tree. K. Halpin has not been contacted by the town engineer regarding the Grand Avenue tree placements. When the topic is discussed, she will notify Mr. Butler regarding any tree planted near his property. There is no further action to take at this time.
4. 47 Alvin Sloan Avenue – Property owner (Bob Cammarota) reported a large hole in a tree located in the right-of-way area. K. Halpin visited the location and determined that the tree needs to be removed. This address will be added to the maintenance list. The property owner will be notified that a replacement tree will be planned for the future. Mr. Cammarota will be consulted regarding the selection of the new tree when a planting schedule is set.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. Marr and seconded by S. McDonald that the meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming